

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 084288
ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02 PRS-01
/116 R

DRAFTED BY OES/J COON:RR
APPROVED BY NEA/IRN: C W NAAS
OEA: L NOSENZO (DRAFT)
NEA/P; G SHERMAN (DRAFT)
-----150740Z 084428 /21
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 084288

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT PRESS RESPONSE ON NUCLEAR MATTERS.

DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE WILL POST THIS MORNING FOLLOWING
MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT APRIL 13 PRESS
CONFERENCE:

Q. IS THIS THE FIRST OFFICIAL DISCLOSURE OF THE
SUSPENSION OF THE IRANIAN TALKS?

A. THE QUESTION, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, HAS NOT
COME UP BEFORE. LET ME CLARIFY OUR POSITION.
NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN IN ABEYANCE, THAT IS ALL, AND
THIS DOES NOT REFLECT IN ANY WAY A BREAKDOWN IN TALKS.
RATHER, WE HAVE HAD A MUTUALLY AGREED DELAY TO PROVIDE
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PAGE 02 STATE 084288

TIME FOR AN OVERALL U.S. POLICY REVIEW ON NON-
PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR EXPORTS.

Q. WERE THERE ONGOING NUCLEAR POWER DISCUSSIONS WITH
NATIONS OTHER THAN IRAN WHICH HAVE ALSO BEEN SUSPENDED?

A. THE DISCUSSIONS WITH IRAN WERE CONCERNED WITH A

BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION ON CIVIL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, WE

HAVE NOT BEEN ENGAGED IN SIMILAR NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SO THERE HAS BEEN NO QUESTION OF SUSPENSION.

Q. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SPAIN AND IRAN, THAT WE HAVE HALTED TALKS WITH IRAN AND NOT WITH SPAIN?

A. WE HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING A BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION WITH IRAN, WHICH IS THE BASIC INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT WHICH ALLOWS FOR NUCLEAR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ANOTHER COUNTRY. NORMALLY, IT TAKES CONSIDERABLE TIME TO NEGOTIATE THESE AGREEMENTS. SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES CONCLUDED SUCH AN AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN 1974, COVERING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. WE HAVE A MAJOR EXPORT PROGRAM UNDER THAT AGREEMENT, AND THERE ARE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO THESE EXPORTS.

Q. DOES IRAN SHARE OUR NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS?

A. IRAN IS A SIGNATORY OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AND IN THAT CONTEXT HAS FORESWORN NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IN ADDITION, THE SHAH HAS SAID MANY TIMES THAT HE HAS NO DESIRE TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND THAT IRAN SHARES OUR CONCERN OVER THE THREAT OF PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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PAGE 03 STATE 084288

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Message Attributes

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